

## Message Text

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65

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 AF-08 ARA-06 /098 W

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R 271027Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4716

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL 169

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USUN NEW YORK 450

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 1516

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, CE

SUBJ: VISIT OF ROK DELEGATION

REF: (A) SEOUL 2983; (B) COLOMBO 1456; (C) STATE 98185

1. ROK DELEGATION, HEADED BY ASSISTANT MINISTER KIM CHUNG-TAI VISITED COLOMBO FROM APRIL 21 TO APRIL 25. CONTRARY TO EXPECTATIONS IN REFTELS, DELEGATION DID NOT SUCCEED IN MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER'S SON, ANURA BANDARANAIKE, WHO WAS FIRST BUSY IN A BY-ELECTION, AND THEN LEFT THE CITY ON THE 24TH AND 25TH.

2. MISSION DID HAVE LENGTHY MEETINGS WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER LAKSHMAN JAYAKODY, FONMIN DIRECTOR GENERAL ARTHUR BASNAYAKE (IN CHARGE OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS FOR NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE), AND N.M.M.I HUSSEIN, DIRECTOR OF NON-ALIGNED AFFAIRS SECTION OF MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MDFA). MEETINGS WERE ALSO HELD WITH TWO OF PRIME MINISTER'S BROTHERS: MACKIE RATWATTE, HER PERSONAL SECRETARY, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT, AND SIVALI RATWATTE, DIRECTOR OF THE EXPORT PROMOTION SECRETARIAT. LATTER INDICATED A STRONG DESIRE TO VISIT ROK AS EARLY AS JUNE TO SURVEY  
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THE FUNCTIONING OF BONDED (FREE PORT) AREAS THERE.

COMMENT: EMBASSY HOPES SUCH A VISIT WILL MATERIALIZE AND THAT APPROPRIATE ROK OFFICIALS WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE ROK-SL JOINT VENTURES, AS SUGGESTED REFTEL (B).

3. SRI LANKAN SIDE MADE FAMILIAR PITCH ABOUT THE DIFFICULTY FOR AN INDIVIDUAL NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM) COUNTRY, HOWEVER MODERATE AND WELL-INTENTIONED, TO ATTEMPT TO CHANGE AND DIVERT THE COURSE AND THRUST OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT PREVIOUS NAM MEETINGS ON A GIVEN ISSUE. THE ROK DELEGATION POINTED TO THE NEED FOR A DIALOGUE EMBRACING ALL PEOPLES ON PENINSULA, RATHER THAN FOR CONFRONTATION POLEMICS. DELEGATION MADE STRONG PITCH, ESPECIALLY TO MACKIE RATWATTE (WHO PROMISED TO RELAY THEIR VIEWS TO THE PRIME MINISTER), THAT ANY GSL MOVE TO PERMIT RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RESIDENT NORTH KOREAN MISSION HERE SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY A SIMULTANEOUS RAISING OF THE PRESENT ROK COMMERCIAL MISSION TO STATUS OF AN EMBASSY.

4. ROK TRADE REP, DR HYO WON CHO, SECURED A PROMISE FROM DIRECTOR GENERAL BASNAYAKE THAT ROK WOULD BE PERMITTED TO BRING IN UP TO FOUR PERSONS ON TDY FROM ROK MISSIONS IN AFRICA, LATIN AMERICA, AND ASIA, IN ORDER TO HELP DURING THE CONFERENCE.

5. REFTEL C HAD NOT BEEN RECEIVED IN TIME TO INCLUDE THE ACTIVITIES OR OK MISSION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF COORDINATED APPROACHES DECIDED UPON BY CORE GROUP IN NEW YORK. HOWEVER, IN THIS EMBASSY'S VIEW, THE MISSION DID ENABLE THE ROK TO PLAY THE PROMINENT ROLE CALLED UPON IN PARA 7 OF THAT INSTRUCTION.

6. DR CHO WAS ON THE WHOLE PLEASED WITH FRIENDLINESS OF GSL RECEPTION FOR DELEGATION. IN ADDITION TO SEVERAL HOURS OF OFFICE CONVERSATION, BOTH JAYAKODY AND BASNAYAKE ACCEPTED CHO DINNER INVITATION AND STAYED WITH ROK MISSION UNTIL LATE IN EVENING. WE BELIEVE THE MISSION WAS TIMELY AND USEFUL. PERKINS  
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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING DELEGATIONS, NONALIGNMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, VISITS  
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